AF(638

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deformed with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 on the date shown below:

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT Examining Group 1638 Patent Application Docket No. SPO-115C1 Serial No. 09/888,035

David R. Saliwanchik, Patent Attorney

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) :

Atsunon Fukuda, Yoshiyuki Tanaka

Serial No.

09/888,035

Filed

June 22, 2001

Art Unit

1638

Conf. No.

9222

For

Sodium/Proton Antiporter Gene

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97, AND 1.98

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the references on the attached form PTO/SB/08 are being brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. Copies of the cited documents are enclosed.

The undersigned hereby certifies that the items of information contained in this statement were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

2

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner indicate consideration of the cited references by returning a copy of the attached form PTO/SB/08 with initials or other appropriate marks.

Applicants respectfully assert that the substantive provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98 are met by the foregoing statements.

Respectfully submitted,

David R. Saliwanchik

Patent Attorney

Registration No. 31,794

Phone No.: 352-375-8100 Fax No.: 352-372-5800

Address: Saliwanchik, Lloyd & Saliwanchik

A Professional Association 2421 N.W. 41st Street, Suite A-1 Gainesville, FL 32606-6669

DRS/ue

Attachments: Form PTO/SB/08

Copies of references cited

Copy of European Search Report

Sheet

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Complete if Known

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

of

Application Number 09/888,035

Filing Date June 22, 2001

First Named Inventor Atsunon Fukuda

Group Art Unit 1638

Examiner Name Cynthia E. Collins

Attorney Docket Number SPO-115C1

OTHER PRIOR ART—NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. 1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.				
	R1	DATABASE EMBL 'Online! EBI; (8-12-1999) "Oryza sativa (Japonica cultivar-group) OsNHX1 mRNA," retrieved from EMBL Database accession no. AB021878, XP002272767.				
	R2	FUKUDA, A. et al. "The functional analysis of the rice Na+/H+ antiporter gene," Plant and Cell Physiology (2001), Volume 42, Supplement, page s210: Symposia of Workshops of the 2001 Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society of Plant Physiologists; Fukuoka, Japan, March 23-26, 2001.				
	R3	RAUSCH et al. "Salt stress responses of higher plants: the role of proton pumps and Na+/H+-antiporters," Journal of Plant Physiology (1996), Volume 148, number 3/4, pages 425-433.				
_	R4					
	R5					
	R6					
	R7					
	R8					

	*		
Examiner		Date	
Signature		Considered	•

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending on the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.